

C. S. 2702,  
amended.

SEC. 6. That section two thousand seven hundred and two of the Consolidated Statutes be and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

Appropriations to  
support of  
existing libraries.

"2702. *Contract with existing libraries.* The governing body of any city, town or county, when deemed best for the interest of the city, town or county, may in lieu of supporting and maintaining a public library, enter into a contract with and make annual appropriations of money to such library, associations or corporations as shall maintain a library or libraries, whose books shall be available without charge to the residents of such city, town or county, under such rules and regulations of said library, associations or corporations, as shall be approved by the governing body of such city, town or county. All money paid to such society or corporation under such contract shall be expended solely for the maintenance of such library, and for no other purpose. For the governing body of such library when contract has been made between city and county, the trustees shall be appointed proportionately to the funds provided for its support.

Free books.

Appointment of  
trustees.

Existing arrange-  
ments unaffected.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to abolish or abridge any power or duty conferred upon any public library established by virtue of any city or town charter or other special act, or to affect any existing local laws allowing or providing municipal aid to libraries."

New section  
enacted.

SEC. 7. That following section two thousand seven hundred and two of the Consolidated Statutes a new section is hereby added as follows:

Adjacent counties  
may combine in  
forming library.

"2702(a). *Combined counties.* Where found to be more practicable, two or more adjacent counties may join for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a free public library under the terms and provisions herein above set forth for the establishment and maintenance of a free county library. In such cases the combined counties shall have the same powers and be subject to the same liabilities as a single county under the provisions of this act. The Board of County Commissioners of the counties which have combined for the establishment and maintenance of a free library shall operate jointly in the same manner as herein provided for the commissioners of a single county. Should any county at any time desire to withdraw from such combination, the said county shall be entitled to such proportion of the property as may have been agreed upon in the terms of combination at the time such joint action was taken."

Joint control.

Withdrawal of  
any county.

Conflicting laws  
repealed.

SEC. 8. That all laws and clauses of laws, private, special or public, in conflict with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.